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DOCKET NO.: IBIS0002-100 (IBIS-0368)

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventors: Ecker, Griffey, Sampath, Hofstadler, McNeil, and Crooke

Serial No.: 09/891,793

Group Art Unit: 1631

Filed: June 26, 2001

Examiner: A. Marschel

Title: A Secondary Structure Defining Database And Methods For Determining Identity
And Geographic Origin Of An Unknown Bioagent TherebyRECEIVED
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On 19 June 2003
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Dear Sir:

RESPONSE TO COMMUNICATION

The present paper is in response to the Communication mailed May 23, 2003. The Communication asserted that Applicants' communications filed on January 22, 2003 and January 23, 2003 are non-responsive to the prior Office Action mailed December 17, 2002 for failure to include a Sequence Listing for the sequences disclosed in, for example, the Figures. As a preliminary matter, Applicants filed a single response on January 17, 2003 to the Restriction Requirement mailed December 18, 2002. No Sequence Listing was included in the response filed January 17, 2003. Rather, a Sequence Listing was filed along with the Preliminary Amendment on May 16, 2003. In particular, the specification was amended to recite "SEQ ID NO:3" and "SEQ ID NO:4" for the 16S rRNA and 23S rRNA sequences, respectively. These two sequences are depicted in the Figures and

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are broken down into regions in order to comply with the drawings requirements (i.e., the sequences were too long to depict on a single page and, thus, were broken down into several Figures). Thus, Applicants submit that Preliminary Amendment and Sequence Listing filed May 16, 2003 renders the Communication from the PTO mailed May 23, 2003 moot.

Applicants submit that the present response is complete. The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at (215) 665-6914 if there are any questions regarding Applicants' claimed invention.

Respectfully submitted,



Paul K. Legaard, Ph.D.
Registration No. 38,534

Date: 19 June 2003

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19 Jun '03 5:17PM; Job 630; Page 1/3

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